



California
Department of
Health Services

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Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

JUN 23 2006

TO: SURVEILLANCE COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: REPORTING CASES OF HIV INFECTION BY NAME

As you know, effective April 17, 2006, a new California law (Health and Safety [H&S] Code Section 121022) created a change in the reporting requirements for cases of HIV infection. H&S Code Section 121022 states that health care providers and laboratories shall report cases of HIV infection by name to the local health officer, and that local health officers shall report unduplicated HIV cases by name to the California Department of Health Services (CDHS). The purpose of this letter is to address concerns that have been offered regarding the specific data elements health departments should include when reporting cases of HIV infection to CDHS.

Local health officers, AIDS Directors, and HIV/AIDS Surveillance Coordinators have raised concerns regarding the need for a uniform statewide reporting standard that includes non-name unique identifiers (e.g., Social Security number, patient address) in HIV case reports in addition to patient name. CDHS is in process of revising the current HIV reporting regulations so that they reflect current law and provide specificity to the elements required for complete and unduplicated reporting. CDHS is proposing to specify the following unique identifiers in the revised HIV reporting regulations:

1. Full patient name;
2. Patient's Social Security number;
3. Patient's address (street, city, county, state, and zip code); and
4. Patient's telephone number.

To assist in reporting HIV cases by name, CDHS has developed new confidential adult and pediatric case report forms to be included in HIV name-reporting regulations. These forms have been enclosed here for your information. Local health departments may begin using the enclosed forms immediately when reporting cases of HIV infection. Local health departments should continue to report patient date of birth, gender, and


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the last four digits of Social Security number and all other data elements specified in the existing non-name code report form currently in regulations. However, until new name-reporting regulations take effect, CDHS, Office of Legal Services, cautions against including full Social Security number, patient address, and patient telephone number when completing the new forms.

Thank you for your efforts to implement name-based HIV reporting in California. If you have questions, please contact me at (916) 449-5866 or e-mail at llund@dhs.ca.gov.



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HIV/AIDS Case Registry Section
Office of AIDS

Enclosures

cc: Local Health Officers

Local AIDS Directors

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